

I shall confide the sheet with implicit Confidence
in your Judgment & discretion, it probably may
need Enlargement and correction if you think
to the purpose at all

Respectfully and truly
Yours
Daniel O'Rourke

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

great modelles have a mighty attraction for the people
of our times and for the superficial and ignorant
of all times. I do not object to this love of modelty in
itself. But the trouble seems to be, that the class who,
need instruction ~~the~~ most are liable to great impositions
by the introduction along with some truth. perhaps some
new truth. a large proportion of ~~empirical~~ fatal error
and certainly, if for instance, we should have to fall back
upon all the mischiefs of the dark ages of Roman
Catholic superstition Bigotry, persecution & domination
horrors, and of faith with heretics, with which almost
in every age or period, that faith has been justly charge-
-able, we should be paying a terrible penalty for the
gratification of our curiosity, in being witness to the
Eloquence & insinuation & smooth address ^{for} which we
will know at least one order of that fraternity now
extinct, were once famous. to conclude I am for giving
a hearty welcome to true excellence & worth. let it
be found where it may, without regard to sect ~~or~~
Country or Colour. whenever it comes recommended
by proper vouchers believing with Pope, "an honest
man, the noblest work of God"

Very truly, your friend

Daniel O'Connell

Friend Garrison should you think any or all the above would
be worth insertion in the Liberator you can act as planned
perhaps enough has already been said by abler pens than
mine, but ~~that~~ I have one wish to communicate in fullness
If I could, yet ^{these} are my views respecting him most decidedly
over

has not yet learned, ^{It seems} whether slavery is really and
explicitly condemn'd either in the Old Testament or
the New, and it seems the poor man is in such dread
of the popular "odium" that he really can't tell
whether Christianity condemns a practice so productive
of all the foregoing results or not. As for the position
of all such, whose thirst for popularity is so intense
that such as are looking up to them for instruction
and guidance, with almost an oracular confidence
~~and~~ after all have to partake of ^{as much} so ~~much~~ mixture, rather
than the whole truth and nothing else
Such teachers have great need to go back to first
principles, and let them at least ascertain as much
as whether "there be any Holy Ghost" for there were
some of old time but so ignorant. Let such go back
to first principles, and inquire what those are of
the oracles of God, least pursuing and acting upon
the principles of Expediency and ^aTemporizing plan
they become what they surely shall on that track, Blind
leaders of the Blind, and by that means do more a good
cause by shaking our confidence in human or even
moral Instrumentality. tho. for ones I confess I
have not much confidence in instrumentalities that
goes no deeper than giving or receding a pledge on the
bended knee, it may have the effect some what
like lopping the branches for a time, but it seems to me
too much alike and in the same category with receding
absolution of sins, and remission of guilt upon confession,
to ^{an} earthly authority, we know that great names and great

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Dear friend



South Scituate, August 19, 1849.

W. L. Garrison: How sorrowful, and how mortifying it is to find a man so influential, and so gifted in many respects, as Father Mathew seems to have been, disappointing all our reasonable expectations of consistency and of candor; ^{upon} ~~from~~ whom we might seem to have a claim for sympathy & courtesy, at least, if not for efficient aid. ^{Alas} Does Fr. Mathew really believe 'tis it possible that he can have imposed on his own understand- ing so far, while he is endeavouring to assist some of his fellow creatures to liberate themselves from the thralldom of one species of slavery. The self-imposed that he is at liberty to close his ears and shut his eyes to the enormities of a system & that slavery so foul in itself so all contaminating in its elevating effects wherever it prevails. That nothing pure or holy can stand before its blighting influences. Which fears not ^{remain} ~~feel~~ nor regards the stench and nauseous savor of whose abominations have now of a long time, (so to speak) filled the whole land with the pestilential breath of its rank atmosphere calling to heaven so loud for vengeance and righteous re- tribution on sinners which could only have been equalled in the land of Sodom & Gomorrah, in tones so emphatic as were it not for the uncompromising denunciations of some faithful & devoted souls. We might expect the very stones to cry out aloud against the abomina- tions of such a people, in condemnation, and yet forsooth Fr. Mathew Christian Doctor tho he be, has not learned